(b) The reasons for its suspension of operation to and from India have not been intimated by TWA. Operation of an air service to a particular point depends primarily on the commercial judgement of the airline.

Microwave communication in M.P. and U. P.

522. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link the dacoity infested villages of Madhya Pradesh and adjoining Uttar Pradesh with district headquarters through Microwave Communication;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no proposal to connect the dacoity infested villages of any State to their District Headquarters by Microwave at present. The reliable media is being provided only upto the level of District Headquarters during the 7th Plan period.

Manufacture of Indigenous Electric Locomotive

523. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government propose to import Electric Locomoive from foreign countries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for shortfall in the indigenous manufacture of Electric Locomotives in India; and

(d) How do Government propose to boost up indigenous manufacture of electric locomotives to meet the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A global tender for import of 40 Nos. of 3 phase drive locomotives of 6000 horse power with the state of the art technology has been floated.

(c) As electrification is an ongoing process, temporary marginal shortfall between requirement of electric locomotives and indigenous manufacture may arise.

(d) The capacity of manufacture of electric locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works is being increased from 60 to 100 locomotives per year, and procurement of 80 to 100 electric locomotives is also being arranged from M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited.

Death of babies due to malnutrition

524. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 7th October, 1987 under the capition "10 million babies die of malnutrition";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far or propose to take to save babies from malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The reported deaths due to malnutrition are for the 3rd World countries as a whole and not for India only.

(b) Government views the problem of mal-nutrition with concern and are implementing programmes to overcome it.

(c) Steps taken by Government include Programmes of Prophylaxis against Nutritional Anaemia among children, Prophylaxis against blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency, Goitre Control Programme,

ICDS Scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development and Special Nutrition Programme, Balwadi Nutrition Programme, and Mid-Day Meal Programme run by the State Governments. Expectant mothers are also provided with nutrition supplement programmes.

Reconstitution of board of ITI

525. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Telephone Industry (ITI) has been without a Chairman and Managing Director for a long time and that the reconstitution of the Indian Telephone Industry Board has been delayed for over a year now;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof stating the impact on the working of the ITI as a result thereof; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to appoint a Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Telephone Industry and to reconstitute its Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The former Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) was due to retire in March, 1987. However, he was appointed as Secretary to the Government w.e.f. 1.1.1987 before arrangements could be made for selection of a substitute.

Separately, a proposal to reorganise the ITI top management was under consideration and the actual selection for the substitute was kept in abeyance temporarily pending finalisation of the decision.

Suitable arrangements have, however, been made to look after the work of the Chairman as well as the Managing Director. There have been no adverse impact on the work of the ITI because of this slight delay in the appointment of a regular Chairman and Managing Director.

(c) The Public Enterprises Selection Board is in the process of finalising the selection for the post of Chairman and Managing Director, ITI. Separately, action has been taken to reconstitute the ITI Board with a number of functional as well as non-official Directors.

Tourism Finance Corporation

526. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Tourism Finance Corporation to provide financial assistance to the tourism industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) With a view to accelerating the development of tourism infrastructure which is one of the major factors inhibiting the growth of tourism in the country, various measures are continuously under consideration in the Ministry. One of these measures relates to the setting of Tourism Finance Corporation.

Harmful effects of Phenylbutazone Oxyphenbutazone

527. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to reports appearing in a sec-